

Application Serial No. 09/681,622
Attorney's Docket No.:06666-033002

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Initially, the indication that claim 29 represents allowable subject matter is appreciatively noted. Claim 29 is amended to obviate the antecedent issues noted therein, and as amended, should be allowable.

Claims 1-3 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as allegedly being anticipated by Leddy et al. Claims 5, 26 and 28 stand rejected over Leddy et al. in view of Lin et al. In response, claim 1 is amended herewith in a way that further distinguishes over the Leddy et al. reference.

Specifically, Leddy et al. teaches a DMD system in which infrared is sent to the DMD which is modulated by a scene generator, and the output of the DMD is then coupled through the focusing lens 25. As noted in previous responses, the DMD will change the scene that is projected, but always produces the scene in exactly the same location.

Upon reconsideration of claim 1, it was considered that perhaps the Examiner was interpreting this claim as covering a situation where the output optical beam had different brightnesses in different locations. Therefore, and in order to obviate this interpretation, claim 1 is amended to recite that a

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focused optical beam is applied to the array of reflector elements, that the output optical beam is output at a focused location, and that the reflector elements are controlled using multiple digital bits which are changed so that each single digital bit changes the focused location where the output optical beam is directed. This is even more clearly unsuggested by Leddy et al., and hence should be allowable thereover.

Newly added claim 30 should be even further allowable, as it defines that the beam whose position is moved is a "pencil-like output beam of a laser device" which is clearly different from anything done or suggested by Leddy et al..

Claim 19 has also been amended to recite that the reflector elements are separated from one another and arranged such that at least one of the elements reflects towards another one of the elements. Moreover, the digital bits each change the position of the elements, to thereby change a location of the output beam. Therefore, this claim is again different than the cited references, and should be allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

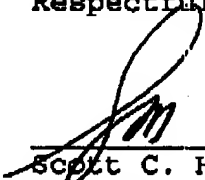
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It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 18, 2004



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